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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3731**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Katsumi Sasaki	Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui
Serial No:	10/029,627	Art Unit:	3731
Filed:	December 21, 2001	Docket:	15174
For:	SURGICAL OPERATION INSTRUMENT	Dated:	December 20, 2004
Conf. No.:	5083		

Center
Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action dated September 21, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: December 20, 2004

Thomas Spinelli